

Is there a reward?

Crime Stoppers offers up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest in a felony crime —like the arrest of a wanted fugitive. And a reward up to \$2,500 is offered if information leads to a homicide arrest. **All rewards are paid in cash.**

How will I know if I've earned it?

To see if an arrest has been made, call Crime Stoppers' local office: 313-922-5000. Be sure to have your unique tip/report number. You will never be asked for any identifying information other than this number.

Rewards are anonymous, too!

If you are eligible for a reward, we'll tell you how to collect it. **Safely. Anonymously.**

How Rewards Are Paid

Rewards are completely anonymous, too!

If you are eligible for a reward, a safe location, often a bank, will be selected where it can be picked up.

At this location you will only be asked for your tip/report number. You will be given an envelope of cash.

CREATING SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS



CRIME STOPPERS
1•800•SPEAK UP
ANONYMOUS CASH REWARDS

Crime Stoppers' Mission

We empower people to make their neighborhoods, schools and businesses *safer* through the anonymous reporting of crime.

Perhaps the best description of our mission is this:

"We provide a way for people to look out for one another."

Serving seven counties in Southeast Michigan

Crime Stoppers of Michigan is a nonprofit organization that serves 4.7 million people in a seven county area of Southeast Michigan: Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne.

Crime Stoppers of Michigan is a member of *Crime Stoppers International*—the largest crime fighting organization in the world. There are 1,200 Crime Stopper programs in 22 countries.

Stand Up. Speak Up. Anonymously. Safely.

Violent crime can destroy communities unless neighbors speak up. Many people *want* to speak up, yet are afraid that if they *do*, criminals might retaliate.

Protecting families begins with you.

Good news. With *Crime Stoppers* you can speak up and **be safe**.

Crime Stoppers is **absolutely anonymous**. There are no caller-ID phones at the Crime Stoppers call center. Calls are never recorded. The web server is secure and transmissions are encrypted. You will never be asked for any information about yourself.

And Crime Stoppers is not part of any law enforcement agency, so you will ***never* need to testify**.

It's easy to contact Crime Stoppers.

Phone us: 1-800-Speak-Up (1-800-773-2587)—a live operator located in our Crime Stoppers call center in Canada will take your call.

Go to CS website: 1800speakup.org and click on the "submit anonymous tips" button—a simple form will pop up so you can provide information about a crime.

Text us: "CSM" plus your tip information to CRIMES (274637).

After you've provided your information, you will be given a unique tip/report number. *Keep* that number—it is your *only* link with Crime Stoppers since we don't know who you are! Don't share the tip number with anyone.

CRIME STOPPERS
1-800-SPEAK UP
ANONYMOUS CASH REWARDS



1-800-422-JAIL

Michigan Crime Stoppers Council

4008 Devonshire Drive
Bay City, MI 48706-2439

Office: (989) 239-7774

Email: princetom@charter.net

Thomas A. Matuszewski
President

George Chelenyak
Vice President

Dennis A. Frank
Secretary

Larry J. Zucal
Treasurer

Bart R. Dexter
Coordinator

March 12, 2013

Mr. Kurt Heise, State Representative
Chairman - Criminal Justice Committee
Post Office Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Chairman Heise:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Michigan Crime Stoppers Council, which includes all of the Crime Stoppers programs from Flint north to the Mackinaw Bridge which includes thirteen counties (which are listed at the bottom of this letter) and includes eleven Crime Stoppers programs. In 2005 we formed a Crime Stopper Council which was open to all programs here in Michigan. Programs from Flint north expressed an interest and thus the council was formed. The purpose of us forming a council was to share the overhead expenses of having a Crime Stoppers program, mainly the cost of an answering service and the cost of a coordinator along with the phone and computer access expenses required for the coordinator. Most of the programs north of Bay County could not exist if they had to pay for their own coordinator and answering service along with the phone and computer access fees. By forming a council, we have one coordinator and one answering service and one set of technology access bills.

We believe in the mission of Crime Stoppers in offering a non-traceable means for tipsters to provide information to assist law enforcement in solving crime. Since people today are afraid to call "911" or the police since they know that is public information, they choose to say NOTHING! They do not want to have to appear in court as a witness and then have to look over their shoulder for the rest of their lives. We know that Michigan has FOUR of the top ten crime cities in the entire United States. And the majority of these crimes involve shootings and many of those being homicides and the victims are often those caught in the cross fire of gang or drug related issues.

The real ONLY hope we have in solving these crimes is to provide those with information a means to report that information in an anonymous way. Crime Stoppers can and does offer that choice. The problem is that we do not have the finances to educate the public about our service. And we are

Serving the Counties of:

Alpena, Alcona, Arenac, Bay, Cheboygan, Genesee, Gladwin, Iosco, Midland, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Presque Isle, and Saginaw

running out of the needed funding to pay for tips that are eligible for a reward. Money to pay for the coordinator fees, the answering service fees and basic operational expenses to promote the program are almost non-existent.

States such as Florida and Texas have implemented programs to add fines to district and circuit court cases to help supplement their Crime Stopper programs. We didn't invent the wheel when we decided to come to our legislators for support. We borrowed the language from the Florida and Texas proposals and we are coming to you with the exact same proposal which is not only operational in Texas and Florida, but in many other states as well. With Michigan being one of the forefront cities in the country suffering from the bleak economy, there just isn't the business and private donation support we are accustomed to having. Now is the time for Michigan legislators to step up and support a proposal that will give us the life blood to stay alive. The proposal being presented provides compensation to the courts for their time and talent in handling the paperwork. It also puts the burden of our program on those who choose to break the law. Could a proposal be any more fair? It will not cost the taxpayers a dime. And honestly, it will be a huge boost in assisting us in taking Michigan out of the crime limelight. It will let people know that moving into Michigan communities is safe and that the business climate is safe and healthy as well. We have got to get the bad guys off the street and there is SO MUCH that Crime Stoppers state-wide could do if the funding were there! There are Student Crime Stopper programs which many states have implemented (and these programs are HUGE in Canada) that could be implemented in schools teaching our young people how to anonymously report crime. This includes not only things happening in the schools such as bullying, cyber-bullying, those talking of bringing a weapon to school, those doing bomb threats, those doing graffiti, those causing damage to school and student property, etc. but our young people have the means to report criminal activity in their neighborhoods and community as well. And too, there are now "new" programs which the general public could download on their cell phones to be able to call, send text, send video and send photos to our answering service.....all anonymously! . How wonderful it could be if every graduating high school senior fully understood how Crime Stoppers works and convince them that our program is safe, anonymous, and that we don't trace calls and that nobody will ever know they called. And wouldn't it be wonderful if our technology minded younger generation all had the Crime Stopper application downloaded on their cell phone so they had Crime Stoppers at their fingertips to give us information via phone message, text, a video clip or a photo?

There is a lot of education that needs to take place about our program. The truth of the matter is that many people do not fully understand how our program works and therefore are afraid to call us thinking that maybe our Crime Stoppers number is really a back door phone to the police station. There are a number of law enforcement officials who do not fully understand how Crime Stoppers works.

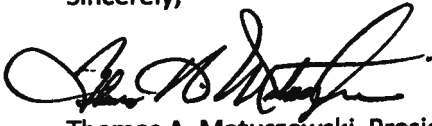
Crime Stoppers of Michigan needs financial support to stay alive. This proposal being presented to you is a comprehensive effort which involved years of effort and which we feel will make the constituents of this state proud of our legislators, if passed. Please read the proposal thoroughly and ask whatever questions you need to understand our plea.

Most of our Crime Stopper programs throughout the state only have one employee.....the coordinator. For our Michigan Crime Stoppers Council, which includes all of the counties from Flint north.....as a council.....we only have one employee, the coordinator. Every officer and every executive officer from every Crime Stoppers program from Flint to the Mackinaw Bridge serves voluntarily. Every officer for the Michigan Council also serves voluntarily. That's right.....everyone serves voluntarily. So from Flint north.....there is only one person being paid!

Our Crime Stopper board members believe in the mission of Crime Stoppers and we work hard to keep the program alive. We are running out of steam however because the business community and the general public just doesn't have the financial resources to share anymore.....and we need fiscal support to exist.

Do yourself proud and please support this effort. On behalf of all of the Crime Stopper Programs in the counties of: Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Bay, Cheboygan, Genesee, Gladwin, Iosco, Midland, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Presque Isle and Saginaw we thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Matuszewski', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Thomas A. Matuszewski, President
Michigan Crime Stoppers Council

